

EDC 667 - Leadership and Educational Technology

Assignment #2 - Envisioning Change: Creating Future Scenarios

What will education/training look like in the year 2011 given the impact of emerging new communication technologies?

Align with a group that is interested in a specific technology. Share information regarding the technology and brainstorm various scenarios based on your own hopeful view of the future or perhaps take a "devil's advocate" approach and look at negative impacts. Groups of 3-5 people would be ideal. If you have worked together with the same people recently, choose a new set for this assignment. Allow time to create. Brainstorm in a nonjudgmental forum.

Scenarios are generated to help us prepare for the future and make key decisions now. Consider the decision being considered in your practice. Examples; Should all schools be hooked to the Internet? Should computers be implemented in K-3 education? Should collaborative technologies be implemented in the workplace?

Gather information. (Browse) Look everywhere. Especially outside of education. Share information. Act as a filter (Schwartz, p. 81) for your scenario. Review Sci Fi for good ideas. (Lawnmower Man, Forbidden Planet etc.) Reflect on the trends and forces that might inform your scenario. Research key driving forces in your practice. Be sure to read Schwartz's **The Art of the Long View**.

Use this information to paint a scenario ten years into the future. Make whatever assumptions you wish, but be very specific about how the technology affects your practice.

Build a website to communicate the related future scenarios of your group.

- Coordinate with others in the group
- Tell a compelling story... Use story power (Schwartz, p. 37)
- Include your assumptions, reference your sources
- Feel free to use illustrations/ videos.
- Get your scenario communicated!

Be prepared to discuss in class the implications of your scenario. See Schedule of NGs for due date.

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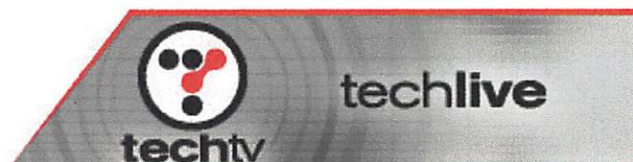
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First Look: Toshiba Pocket PC e310

Toshiba presents the smallest, lowest-cost personal digital assistant. See it in action Wednesday 6/12 at 9 p.m. Eastern on 'Fresh Gear.'

Also airs 6/15 at 11 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 11:30 p.m., 6/16 at 1:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 3 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 11:30 p.m., 6/17 at 10:30 a.m., 3 p.m., and 9:30 p.m., 6/18 at 12:30 a.m., and 6/19 at 7 a.m., 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 6 p.m.

By [Hahn Choi](#)
June 12, 2002

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Toshiba, which made an impressive entry into the personal digital assistant (PDA) world with the [Genio e570](#), is breaking new ground with the e310. The e310 packs many of the familiar features found in competing [Pocket PC 2002](#) devices, but in a lightweight form factor. Even better is the price tag.

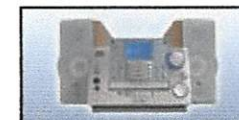
Video Highlight

Toshiba e310
Pocket PC

The e310 is the smallest Pocket PC-based PDA on the market, with a form factor rivaling many Palm-based devices. Measuring 4.9 inches by 3.1 inches, a paltry 0.4 inches thin, and only 4.9 ounces, the e310 is almost the same size as the flagship Palm m515. For the slightly larger size, you get the higher-resolution (320x240), 16-bit (65,536 colors) color display commonly found in Pocket PC devices.

Like more expensive counterparts, an Intel StrongArm 206-MHz processor powers the e310. Similarly, 32MB of Flash memory supports the operating system and other core applications. You'll find 32MB of RAM for data storage and adding other applications. Most Pocket PC 2002 devices come with 64MB.

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For expandability, Toshiba goes with Secure Digital (SD), with support for SD I/O (Input/Output) for adding modules such as Bluetooth. An 802.11b module is expected for SD I/O someday, but for now CompactFlash (CF) is the smallest you'll find. The e310's smaller size means you won't find a CF slot.

With the e310, Toshiba adds a three-way rocker switch called the Toshiba Scroller on the side for scrolling through applications and menu items. On the front, the familiar five-way navigation pad and four quick-launch buttons remain.

First impressions

Priced at \$400 (we found it for \$375 online), the Toshiba e310 is the cheapest Pocket PC 2002 PDA we've seen yet. While you have to make some sacrifices, the small size and more affordable price will be worth it for many. Particularly if you're considering your first PDA or switching from a Palm OS device, the e310 provides plenty of features to keep you entertained. Considering that the Palm m515, with less features, costs the same, the e310 gets our approval. The big question is: With Intel's faster XScale processors expected in PDAs later this year, will the price drop even more?

Pros: Small size; good price.

Cons: Less memory than other devices.

Company: [Toshiba](#)

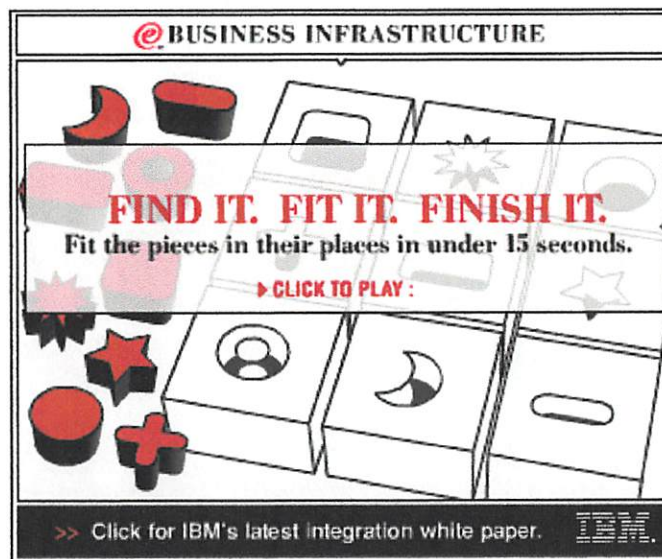
Phone: 1.800.867.4422

Price: \$400

Available: Now

Platform: Pocket PC 2002

Specs: Pocket PC 2002; Intel StrongArm 206-MHz processor; 16-bit display; 32MB ROM; 32MB RAM; SD expansion; 4.9 inches by 3.1 inches by 0.4 inches; 4.9 ounces



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Shawn Barnett

Pen Computing Magazine

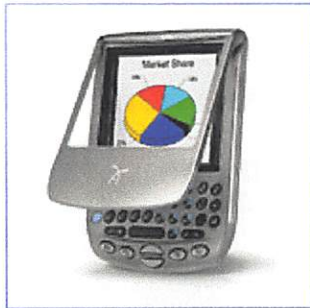
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It's sleek. It's slim. It's super-lightweight. But our Treo™ 90 organizer is so much more than just a pretty package. With its built-in keyboard, color screen, 16 MB of memory and Palm OS compatibility, it's our latest—and greatest—organizational tool.

It's got the power

Forget compromise. Handspring's Treo 90 gives you everything you want in an organizer: 16MB of



memory—enough space to hold thousands of records, all kinds of Palm OS applications, even databases and documents—Palm OS 4.1, a vivid color screen, built-in keyboard, super-fast processor and SD expansion capabilities—all in one super-sleek device. And it's rechargeable. What more could you want?



Light, bright

For starters, the Treo 90 organizer is the smallest color Palm OS organizer on the market today. And at only 4 ounces, it's one of the lightest, too. Just slip it into your pocket or purse—you'll barely know it's there. The removable flip lid protects the full-color screen and built-in keyboard. Of course with Handspring's award-winning design, you won't want to hide it away for long...

[See just how small it is](#)



The keyboard is key

Take notes. Enter information with ease. Find contacts quickly—in 3 keystrokes or less. All built-in applications have been optimized for thumb keyboard navigation so now it's just as easy to get to where you need to go as it is to enter everything you need to remember—without having to learn Graffiti. Plus, our special key lock feature lets you avoid accidentally turning on the organizer when it's in your pocket, bag, or briefcase—saving precious battery power.

Store more

SD expansion lets you store—and quickly access—tons of data. Or add all kinds of content—including games, photographs, video files, databases and more. Or back up your entire device—at any time, and without sacrificing size. And with a whole host of compatible Secure Digital (SD) and MultiMedia Cards (MMC) already on the market, you'll have all kinds of



interesting options.

All this and more...

The Treo 90 organizer also comes with a FREE copy of WordSmith® (a \$29.95 value) so you can carry, access and edit your Word documents while you're on the go.

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Feature - High Tech High School: PDA Verticals, Handspring, and Ballard High Team up to Introduce Handheld Computers into Curriculum

by pdaED.com

*Pioneering Project at Ballard High Provides Students with
Handheld Devices, Increased Learning Opportunities*

Do you want us to let you know when there's new
information about the Ballard High School Project? Click
here.

Do you want to be notified when Build-to-Order handheld
devices are available? Click here.

Ballard High is going high tech this semester. Students in Joe Kelly's ninth grade Language Arts class will be provided with Handspring Visor Deluxe handheld computers and educational software to use at school and at home. Other teachers supporting the program include Amy Holmes, Dina McArdle, Mollie Hackett, and Cassie Chinn.

Students will use the Visors to take notes in class, track homework assignments, create outlines and write reports, share information, and record their grades. They can also read novels and news, use an electronic dictionary and thesaurus, and study for tests.

The project has been made possible by the joint efforts of PDA Verticals and Handspring Inc., which donated half of the computers for the program, as well as education-related Palm OS developers, and The Ballard High School Foundation.

"The Ballard High program is an excellent example of how educators and organizations like PDA Verticals are integrating handheld computers into rich opportunities for students and teachers alike," stated Susan Yost, Education Markets Manager for Handspring. "Handspring is excited about supporting dynamic classrooms that are embracing technology."

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The Plan: A Handheld in Every Student's Hand

Dr. Engle, Ballard High Principal, anticipates that students using the computers will develop stronger organizational skills, improve academic achievement, and gain valuable proficiency with technology. "I am committed to making technology available to all students," said Dr. Engle. "We need to introduce technology into education early and integrate it into the daily lives of students." The pilot project is intended to generate data for a grant at the district level, then statewide.

Dr. Engle envisions having kiosks on campus for students to upload completed assignments, download new homework, and retrieve current information from a variety of sources. The infrastructure could then be replaced with wireless networks that take advantage of wireless Springboard modules available for the Visor.

Terry Bergeson, Superintendent of Public Instruction, recently stated that efforts like this "...are tremendous on a number of important levels. Students who become proficient with technology have a substantial advantage upon entering the working world."

Seattle Area Company Helps Realize the Vision

Dr. Engle selected Seattle area company PDA Verticals to supply the Ballard High handhelds and software because of its expertise with education and technology, industry relationships, and innovative customization process. It is the only company that provides handhelds customized with pre-loaded software selected by the user. Typically, users must purchase the device and software separately and install the software.

Students and educators at Ballard High will use the pdaED.com website to share experiences in online discussion forums and publish assignments produced using their handhelds. You can track the progress of the project, participate in lively discussions, and learn more about handhelds in education on the website. PDA Verticals is also helping teachers develop a curriculum that integrates the devices into all aspects of learning. Staff members will help train students.

"We are excited to be involved in a project to improve academic achievement." Said Chad Roberts, CEO of PDA Verticals. "The students participating will be gaining life skills that will give them the confidence and ability to compete in today's high tech world."

The Ballard High collection of educational software will be available on customized, pre-loaded handheld computers for sale on pdaED.com in March 2001. Parents, students, and educators in the US and Canada can select and configure handheld computers, which will be shipped ready-to-use.

The Ballard High software package includes [QuizApp](#) by PDA Verticals, [Thesaurus](#) by DDH Software, [Four.Zero](#) by HandMark, [powerOne Graph](#) by Infinity Software, [BDicty Gold](#) by Beiks, and [Teacher's PET](#) by Coffee Pot Software.

For More Information

Email me when more information about the Ballard High School Handspring Visor project becomes available.

Type your email address in the box and click Submit.

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Forget PTA; This School Goes PDA

By [Katie Dean](#)

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7:00 a.m. June 27, 2001 PDT

CHICAGO -- Gone are the days when school districts invested in stand-alone computer labs. The trend for schools these days is portability, the better to integrate technology into all classrooms.

This fall, [Forsyth Country Day School](#), a private school just outside of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, is mandating that all of its high school students purchase a [Palm IIIC](#) and a portable keyboard.

See also:

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According to Palm, it's the first K-12 school in the country to require its students to use handheld computers in the classroom.

The school considered laptops, but decided that with PDAs, "we could do it at a lot lower expense and have a lot more flexibility," said Eric Peterson, an assistant headmaster and English teacher at the school.

"Technology for (students) is not something extra," he said. "They've grown up in a world where technology is omnipresent. I think it's

going to make their learning experience more interesting and effective."

"It hooks them."

The affluent student body -- about 300 high school students -- will purchase the devices this year, and next year the cost will be incorporated into the \$10,700 yearly tuition.

The Palms will cost about \$300 with a keyboard and software, including applications for word processing, scientific data collection, Web clippings, a graphing calculator, testing and assessment, flash cards, a gradebook for teachers and e-mail.

Teachers will be trained to use the handhelds in a short course this summer.

The school plans to purchase 100 additional Palms that elementary and middle school classes can check out for specific projects.

"We hope to get to the point where there are Palms in every classroom," Peterson said.

The PDAs will not connect to the Web, but ethernet cradles on campus will enable students to sync to Web folders and e-mail.

Peterson introduced Palms to his British Literature class in January in a pilot program, figuring that "if it's going to be useful in a British literature class, it's going to be useful anywhere."

The kids used them to organize their homework assignments, take notes, make vocabulary flash cards and take quizzes.

However, he admits "the level of utility in a literature class is going to be somewhat less than a science class."

School officials said they chose the Palm IIIC model because "the color is a nice addition and it's a relatively rugged design which is particularly suited for schools."

The school also opted for the rechargeable batteries because during the pilot program,

"somebody was always having a battery issue," Peterson said.

Educators at the National Educational Computing Conference generally supported the idea.

"I think it's innovative. I think it could help students with organizational skills," said Mary Rehfus, middle school teacher at Norridge School District 80 in Norridge, Illinois.

Though she plans to buy a Palm for herself, she wasn't sold on the whole idea for high school.

"I think high school kids would get more use out of a laptop than a Palm," she said.

"If the expense isn't prohibitive, then it's probably a good thing," said Andrea LaForte, a second grade teacher at Belle Valley North School in Belleville, Illinois. "Those kids would probably have an edge on their peers out in the real world."

"I don't know if we'll ever get there in the public schools," she said. "My parents (of students) can't even afford a \$35 book rental fee."

One educator, who was tapping away on her Handspring Visor, said that she and her colleagues use PDAs, but for students, they opted for desktops.

"It wouldn't be practical for us," said Maria Thomas, a curriculum developer in Community School District 8 in the Bronx, which just purchased a number of iMacs for students to use at home. "It might be something for the future."

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Maine Laptop Funding Threatened

By [Katie Dean](#)

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2:00 a.m. May 30, 2002 PDT

A \$180-million budget shortfall in Maine is threatening a statewide laptop program for middle schools, just as teachers are seeing initial success with their students.

In December, the state signed a four-year, \$37.2-million contract with Apple Computer to provide wireless iBooks to all seventh- and eighth-grade students and teachers in Maine.

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Governor Angus King spearheaded the controversial program, considered the largest educational technology purchase by a state.

But with the shortfall, some legislators believe that money for the laptop program would be better spent elsewhere.

King will meet with legislative leaders this summer to figure out whether a meeting of the whole legislature is necessary to address

the budget shortfall.

"I don't think the budget shortfall will affect the implementation of the plan," King

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said. "It may be that the legislature will pull some of that future money that's sitting in the bank."

"It would be very shortsighted to undermine a project of this long-term value because of a one-year budget problem," he said.

The state's legislature-approved, \$25-million [Maine Learning Technology Endowment](#) will pay for the Apple contract along with funds from the Maine School and Library Network.

Some legislators are eyeing the \$25 million to cover other state expenses.

"Now what I'm hearing from a number of legislators -- who were supportive of the laptop program -- is that they are withdrawing their support from keeping the endowment," said Maine Senate President [Richard Bennett](#) (R-Norway).

Bennett agreed that a laptop can be a "very powerful tool for learning."

"My concerns over the plan are mainly fiscal," he said.

Bennett said that an alternative to the endowment is implementing a "pay-as-you-go" system for the laptop program.

Tony Sprague, a spokesman for the governor, said that all programs could be considered if and when the legislature meets.

He said King may have to use his curtailment authority, which allows the governor to make reductions in general fund spending.

To make up the \$180 million, the cut in spending would be around 7 percent across the board.

In the meantime, laptop proponents hope the program will be rolled out to all seventh-graders and their teachers this fall.

Nine middle schools have already received their laptops and are serving as demonstration schools for the rest of the state.

King recently visited Pembroke Elementary -- the most rural of the demonstration


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schools, located in an economically depressed area -- and saw results of the laptop implementation.

"The success is just unbelievable," King said.

King said the program has all the benefits that laptop proponents predicted: Students are becoming more comfortable with technology and have access to tools they need to learn.

And pilot schools are having fewer problems with attendance and discipline, which is an unexpected benefit.

"What teachers are seeing more than anything is engagement," King said. "You don't see the looking out the window and giggling and stuff."

School administrators are thrilled with what they have seen so far.

"We have nothing but success stories here," said Paula Smith, principal of Pembroke Elementary school, whose 25 seventh-graders are part of the pilot program. "I haven't had a student in the office since the laptops."

"This is the one way we're equal to every other seventh-grade in the state," Smith said. Students "have a real appreciation of what doors it's opened for them."

If students don't get their laptops as planned, "it's really going to be detrimental," Smith said.

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